QA-594 Carville-Stromeyer Farm 3221 Romancoke Road Stevensville vicinity, Queen Anne's County

Constructed ca. 1900 Private

The Carville-Stromeyer Farm is located at 3221 Romancoke Road (Maryland Route 8), on Kent Island approximately six miles south of Stevensville. The house is a circa-1900, two-story, telescoping, wood frame structure that sits on the east side of Romancoke Road, facing west. A one-story, two-bay, wood frame garage is located directly to the southeast of the house. Another modest frame house stands immediately to the north.

Built circa 1900 in the post office village of Mattapex, the Carville-Stromeyer Farmhouse is a modest example of a popular, late-nineteenth-century and early twentieth-century vernacular house form in Queen Anne's County. Alterations made to the house during the second half of the twentieth century have removed or obscured some of the building's historic details, but its essential form is still intact. The house was likely built by the Carville family, who acquired the property in the mid-nineteenth century. It was either built by Ann C. Carville, or by her son Thomas Roland Carville. The house was probably built to house an employee, a relative, or a tenant farmer.

### Inventory No. QA-594

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

other											
otriei	Carville-Strom	eyer Farm (prefe	erred)								
2. Location											
street and number	3221 Romanco	ke Road							not for	publi	cation
city, town	Stevensville, M	MD 21666-3211						X	vicinity		
county	Queen Anne's	County									
3. Owner of F	Property	(give names	s and mailing	addresse	es of all	owners					
name	Leonard Paul N	Neil & Jennifer S	Susan Burdha	rd Neil							
street and number	3221 Romanco	ke Road		-			telepho	ne	-		
city, town	Stevensville			state	MD		zip code	9	21666-3	211	
4. Location o	of Legal D	Descriptio	n								
courthouse, registry	of deeds, etc.	Queen Anne's C	County Courtl	nouse		liber	SM 691	folio	583		
olty town	O		tax map 70	4	arcel	9		toy ID		04	-003349
5. Primary Lo	uting Resource	f Addition	nal Data	tax p	Jaicei	-		IdX ID	number		
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7. Descriptio	n	Inventory No.: QA-594
Condition		
excellent	deteriorated	
X good	ruins	
fair	altered	

#### Summary

The Carville-Stromeyer Farm is located at 3221 Romancoke Road (Maryland Route 8), on Kent Island approximately six miles south of Stevensville. The house is a circa-1900, two-story, telescoping, wood frame structure that sits on the east side of Romancoke Road, facing west. A one-story, two-bay, wood frame garage is located directly to the southeast of the house. Another modest frame house stands immediately to the north.

### Description

#### **Primary Resource**

The Carville-Stromeyer Farm sits slightly below grade, and its yard is separated from the road by a drainage ditch. A gravel driveway runs from the street to the garage on the south side of the house, and a poured concrete walkway wraps around the southern end of the house, leading to a brick front stoop. A gravel driveway belonging to the neighboring property runs close to the house on the north side. There are a few foundation plantings in the front, and scattered trees throughout the front yard. The south property line is defined by the edge of a wooded lot, as is the east property line.

The house has four distinct parts: the original two-story, two-bay main block at the northernmost end; a historic, two-story, one-bay addition attached to the main block's south end; a circa-1960, shed-roofed, enclosed porch at the southernmost end; and a one-story, shed-roofed addition that extends across the rear. The main block and historic addition have side-gable roofs sheathed with standing-seam metal that feature boxed wood eaves with cornice returns in the gable ends. The foundation is concealed by a sheet metal skirt, but appears to consist of brick piers. One exterior-end, concrete-block, flue chimney is located on the north end of the house. The main block and historic addition at 3221 Romancoke Road are clad with asbestos shingles, while the porch is clad with aluminum siding.

The original main block of 3221 Romancoke Road contains the front entry for the house in its southern bay, with a nine-light-over-two-panel wood door. Paired one-over-one, wood, double-hung windows fill the other bay on the first story, while in the second story, individual windows of the same type comprise each of the two bays. The paired windows on the first story likely represent a non-historic alteration. The windows feature mitred wood surrounds with a beaded interior edge, and a projecting sill. The majority of the house's windows are framed by the same surrounds. The window arrangement in the one-bay addition follows the same pattern, with paired windows on the first story, and an individual window on the second. A row of awning windows makes up the top half of the porch addition, which also has a metal door with jalousie windows in the center of its south elevation.

The house's north elevation is pierced by only one, one-over-one, wood, double-hung sash window, located in the rear addition. The east (rear) elevation is the location of the one-story rear addition, which appears to be the result of two building campaigns. The inner portion, which extends the length of the house, has the same asbestos-shingle cladding as the main block of the house; three, one-over-one wood double-hung sash windows; and a replacement wood door. The outer portion – located at the southern end – is clad in the same aluminum siding as the enclosed porch. This outer portion of the rear addition sits on a continuous concrete block foundation, and has one jalousie window. The second story of the main block features two, one-over-one, wood windows, while the second story of the historic addition has one fixed, one-light, wood window with a molded wood surround.

#### Secondary Resources (buildings, sites, structures, objects.)

The circa-1950, one-story, two-bay garage has been converted for use as an office. Its southernmost vehicle bay has been boarded up with plywood, and its northernmost vehicle bay is infilled with a six-panel vinyl door and vertical wood board. The garage sits on a concrete block foundation, and is clad with asbestos shingles. It has a front-gabled roof sheathed with asphalt shingles, and has one, one-over-one, vinyl sash window with molded wood surrounds in the center of the north elevation. A vertical wood-board shed addition is attached to the rear of the garage. There are six non-historic outbuildings on the property: two prefabricated metal sheds, two chicken coops, a plywood frame shed, and a prefabricated wood frame gazebo. The interior of both the house and the garage were inaccessible at the time of survey.

8. Signific	ance			Inventory No.: QA-594
Period 1600-1699 1700-1799 1800-1899 1900-1999 2000-	Areas of Significance  agriculture archeology X architecture art commerce communications community planning conservation	Check and ju economics education engineering entertainment/ recreation ethnic heritage exploration/ settlement	health/medicine industry invention landscape architecture law literature maritime history military	performing arts philosophy politics/government religion science social history transportation other:
Specific dates	circa 1900		Architect/Builder	
Construction da	ates circa 1900			
Evaluation for:				
Nego	National Register	N	laryland Register	Xnot evaluated

#### **Summary Statement of Significance**

Built circa 1900 in the post office village of Mattapex, the Carville-Stromeyer Farmhouse is a modest example of a popular, late-nineteenth-century and early twentieth-century vernacular house form in Queen Anne's County. Alterations made to the house during the second half of the twentieth century have removed or obscured some of the building's historic details, but its essential form is still intact. The house was likely built by the Carville family, who acquired the property in the mid-nineteenth century. It was either built by Ann C. Carville, or by her son Thomas Roland Carville. The house was probably built to house an employee, a relative, or a tenant farmer.

#### **Historical Narrative**

Built circa 1900 in the post office village of Mattapex, the house at 3221 Romancoke Road is a modest example of a popular, late-nineteenth-century and early twentieth-century vernacular house form in Queen Anne's County. Alterations made to the house during the second half of the twentieth century have removed or obscured some of the building's historic details, but its essential form is still intact. According to the owner of the neighboring property, a post-1950 fire destroyed most of the interior of the house, which was renovated by the previous owners.<sup>1</sup>

The village of Mattapex takes its name from Mattapex Plantation (QA-165) which stands about one-half mile north of this site on a branch of Shipping Creek. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Mattapex Plantation was built circa 1760 for the Carter family who owned and farmed the property through the mid-nineteenth century. The community of Mattapex seems to have been established shortly after the Civil War. By 1878, the area immediately surrounding the subject property included several residences and J.T. Goodman's store. North of the subject property and just north of the Mattapex Plantation, there was a landing, near which stood a church and a school.<sup>2</sup> By 1883, a post office named "Mattapex" was operating in the area and by 1895, the village had a population of approximately forty.<sup>3</sup>

The house at 3221 Romancoke Road was built on a portion of the circa-300-acre farm of Isaac Winchester. Comprised of two parcels known historically as "Parlivant" and "Isaac's Addition," the farm was acquired from a Winchester descendant by Thomas B. Carville in 1859. The 283-acre property remained in the Carville family until 1929. During the second half of the nineteenth century, wheat and corn were the chief crops being raised in Queen Anne's County, and Eastern Shore farms were known for the fine bloodlines of their herds of cattle, horses, and flocks of sheep. By the third quarter of the nineteenth century, Eastern Shore grain farmers had difficulty competing with the Great Plains states for the national market, so farmers increasingly turned to fruit production. It was during the Carville's ownership that the house at 3221 Romancoke Road was constructed. By 1920, T. Roland Carville was living in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Rosemary Adams, conversation with author, Stevensville, Md.: 19 April 2007.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> An Illustrated Atlas of Kent and Queen Anne Counties, MD (Philadelphia: Lake, Griffing & Stevenson, 1877).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "Post Offices: Maryland, Queen Anne's County," *Jim Forte Postal History* (Las Vegas, Nev.: Jim Forte, n.d.) – [accessed 11 October 2007], <a href="http://postalhistory.com/postoffices.asp?task=display&state=MD&county=Queen+Annes-">http://postalhistory.com/postoffices.asp?task=display&state=MD&county=Queen+Annes-</a>; also "1895 U.S. Atlas, Maryland," *1895 U.S. Atlas* (Rio Vista, Calif.: USGenNet, 1997-2003) – [accessed 20 May 2007], <a href="http://www.livgenmi.com/1895/MD/Index/m.htm">http://www.livgenmi.com/1895/MD/Index/m.htm</a> >.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Chain of Title, Continuation Sheet 8-2, for this and all subsequent deed references.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> J. Thomas Scharf, The Natural & Industrial Resources and Advantages of Maryland (Annapolis, Md.: C.H. Baughman & Co., State Printers, 1892), p. 85.

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet 9-1.

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property Acreage of historical setting Quadrangle name 0.505 acres 0.505 acres

Kent Island Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000 (7.5 minute)

Inventory No.: QA-594

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The property boundary is defined by the current parcel boundaries shown on tax map 70, grid 14, parcel 9 in Queen Anne's County, Maryland.

### 11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Kathryn Gettings Smith and Gerald M. Maready, Jr., Architectural Historians				
organization	History Matters, LLC	date	November 16, 2007		
street & number	1502 21st Street, NW, 2nd Floor	telephone	202-223-8845		
city or town	Washington	state	DC		

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Department of Planning 100 Community Place Crownsville, MD 21032-2023 410-514-7600

Name: Carville-Stromeyer Farm Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

the incorporated town of Stevensville,<sup>6</sup> and it is thus unlikely that he built the house at 3221 Romancoke Road for himself. Most probably, he or his mother constructed it to house an employee, a relative, or tenant farmer. Renting farmland was common practice in the early twentieth century – tenants farmed more than twice as much land as owners, and most tenant farmers were white.<sup>7</sup> In 1900, Annie C. Carville was operating a farm on Kent Island; her 23-year-old son, Roland, and two daughters were living with her at the time.<sup>8</sup>

Inventory No.: QA-594

In 1929, T. Roland Carville sold his family's 283-acre farm located on "both sides of the public road leading from Stevensville to Kent Point" (now known as Romancoke Road) to the Claiborne and Annapolis Ferry Company, which operated a passenger and automobile ferry service across the Chesapeake Bay from 1919 until 1952. The company's initial route ran from Annapolis to Claiborne in Talbot County (just south of Kent Island); however, by 1930 demand had grown so rapidly due to the increased popularity of the automobile that the company inaugurated a second route that ran from Annapolis to the east side of Kent Island. The Kent Island landing was established at Matapeake, only a few miles north of Mattapex. It is possible that the ferry company acquired Carville's land as a potential location for the landing, or, as a speculative venture for recreational property development.

In 1941, the year that the Maryland State Roads Commission purchased the Annapolis-Claiborne Ferry Company, the company sold its property in Mattapex to William F. Stromeyer of Annapolis. Two years later, Stromeyer sold the property – by that time 271 acres – to Duke Adams of Baltimore. In 1952, Adams, who then lived in Calvert County, Maryland, sold the house and approximately three-quarters of an acre of land to Curtis and Erma Benton of Queen Anne's County. According to a neighbor interviewed at the time of survey, the Benton family occupied the property until Erma Benton sold the lot and house to the current owners in 1999.

6 1920 U.S. Population Census, Queen Anne's County, Maryland, District 4, Stevensville, Enumeration District 79, Sheet 3-A.

<sup>8</sup>1900 U.S. Population Census, Queen Anne's County, Maryland, District 4, Enumeration District 64, Sheet 7.

10 Adams.

<sup>7 &</sup>quot;County Level Results for 1920: Maryland," Historical Census Browser (Charlottesville, Va.: University of Virginia, Geospatial and Statistical Data Center, 2004) – [accessed 11 October 2007], <a href="http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/stats/histcensus/php/county.php">http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/stats/histcensus/php/county.php</a>; also "County Level Results for 1910: Maryland," Historical Census Browser (Charlottesville, Va.: University of Virginia, Geospatial and Statistical Data Center, 2004) – [accessed 11 October 2007], <a href="http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/stats/histcensus/php/county.php">http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/stats/histcensus/php/county.php</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> "Claiborne-Annapolis Ferry Company," Wikipedia (St. Petersburg, Fla.: Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., 2007. Permission is granted to copy, distribute and/or modify this document under the terms of the GNU Free Documentation License, Version 1.2 or any later version published by the Free Software Foundation; with no Invariant Sections, no Front-Cover Texts, and no Back-Cover Texts) – [accessed 15 May 2007], < http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Claiborne-Annapolis Ferry Company>.

Inventory No.: QA-594

Name: Carville-Stromeyer Farm Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

#### Chain of Title

9 July 1999 Erma E. Benton to Leonard Paul Neil & Jennifer Susan Burdhard Neil

Liber SM 691, folio 583

Schedule A, Parcel 2: part of the farm called "The William F. Stromeyer Farm," "The Claiborne-Annapolis Ferry Company Farm," "The Carville Farm," and more recently called "The Duke

Adams Farm." 0.747 acre

23 January 1952 Duke Adams & Martha D. Adams of Calvert Co. to Curtis E.H. Benton and Erma E. Benton of

Queen Anne's County Liber TSP 4, folio 51

Part of the farm called "The William F. Stromeyer Farm," "The Claiborne-Annapolis Ferry Company Farm," "The Carville Farm," and more recently called "The Duke Adams Farm."

0.727 acre

3 December 1945 Nellie G. Meredith (single) to Duke Adams & Martha D. Adams of Calvert Co.

Liber ASG Jr.12, folio 392

All that farm... called "The William F. Stromeyer Farm," "The Claiborne-Annapolis Ferry Company Farm," "The Carville Farm," and more recently called "The Duke Adams Farm."

271.505 acres

3 December 1945 Duke Adams & Martha D. Adams of Calvert County to Nellie G. Meredith

Liber ASG Jr 12, folio 391

All that farm... called "The William F. Stromeyer Farm," "The Claiborne-Annapolis Ferry Company Farm," "The Carville Farm," and more recently called "The Duke Adams Farm."

271.505 acres

29 July 1943 William F. Stromeyer & Agnes E. Stromeyer of Anne Arundel Co. to Duke Adams of Baltimore

Liber ASG Jr 8, folio 100

Farm known as "the William F. Stromeyer Farm", "The Claiborne-Annapolis Ferry Company

Farm," "The Carville Farm"; gives metes & bounds

271.505 acres excluding 2.582 acres contained within the boundaries of the public road traversing

the above described tract of land.

9 October 1941 The Claiborne-Annapolis Ferry Company, a Maryland corporation, to William F. Stromeyer of

Annapolis

Liber ASG Jr 5, folio 184

[same metes & bounds; same acreage & exclusion] shown on a map made by Kastenhuber & Anderson, Civil Engineers & Surveyors entitled "Map of Portions of "Parlivant" and "Isaac's Addition" ("Carville Farm") purchased by William P. Stromeyer... August 1929 & Sept. 1941"

Both sides of the public road leading from Stevensville to Kent Point

Inventory No.: QA-594

Name: Carville-Stromeyer Farm

**Continuation Sheet** 

Number 8 Page 3

corporate

Liber BHT 9, folio 256 283 acres, 24 perches

Both sides of the public road leading from Stevensville to Kent Point

Formerly the homestead of the late Isaac Winchester and comprised in two tracts of land called

"Parlivant" and "Isaac's Addition"

27 May 1911

Mrs. Mary B. Carter (widow), Mrs. Maggie E.O. Tolson & Wm. D. Tolson, Mrs. Katie E. Norman & John M. Norman, Mrs. Annie Evelyn Snyder & Dr. Chas. K. Snyder (heirs at law of the late Ann C. Carville) to T. Roland Carville

Liber SS 10, folio 51

Being on the right hand side of the public road leading from Stevensville to Kent Point...formerly the home stead of the late Isaac Winchester and composed of two tracts of land called "Parlivant"

and "Isaac's Addition."
[different metes & bounds]

334 acres, 1 rood and 23 perches except 1/2 acre sold to Protestant Episcopal Church & 50 acres sold by John B. Brown, trustee, to John T. Norman Sept. 25, 1875 leaving for the land granted 283

acres and 24 perches

9 November 1885

Robert C. Earickson & Mary S.C. Earickson, William Dewey & Catherine S. Dewey of Queen Anne's County and Vincent Earickson & Matilda A. Earickson of Baltimore to Ann C. Carville

Liber SCD 6, folio 458

Formerly the homestead of late Isaac Winchester & conveyed by Jacob Winchester & wife to

Thomas B. Carville (1859 deed).

[same acreage & exceptions as 1911 deed]

25 September 1875

John B. Brown, trustee, to John T. Norman

Liber JW 5, folio 159

Brown is trustee in Feb. 2, 1871 case of Thomas R. Carville vs Thomas B. Carville

Part of "Parliavant" & "Isaac's Addition"—50 acres 2 roods 29 perches; land next to Norman

property called "Matessex"

Jacob Winchester & Mary Winchester to Thomas B. Carville of Queen Anne's County (being at

present time in Baltimore)

Liber MB 1, folio 221

[same acreage & exceptions]

4 October 1859

Name: Carville-Stromeyer Farm Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

#### Major Bibliographical References

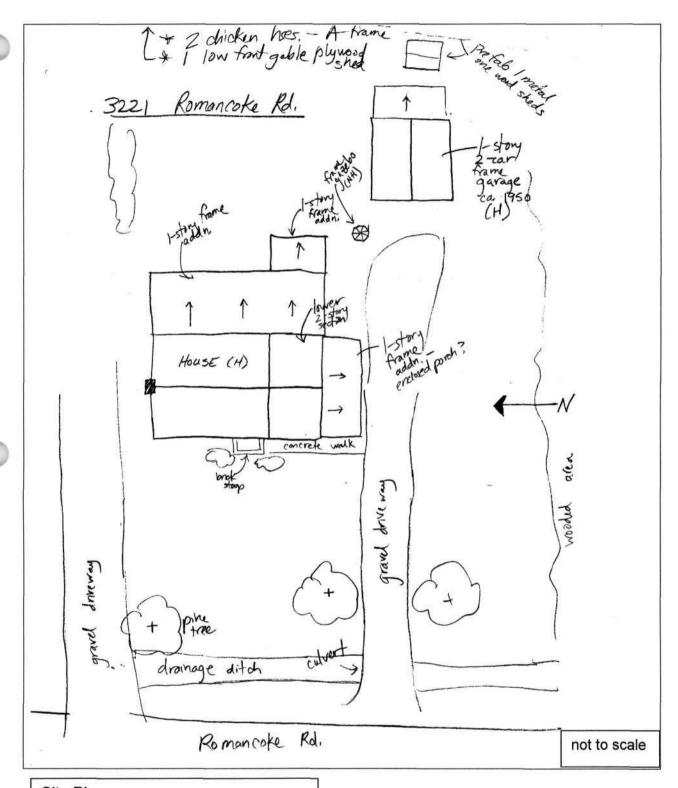
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An Illustrated Atlas of Kent and Queen Anne Counties, MD. Philadelphia: Lake, Griffing & Stevenson, 1877.

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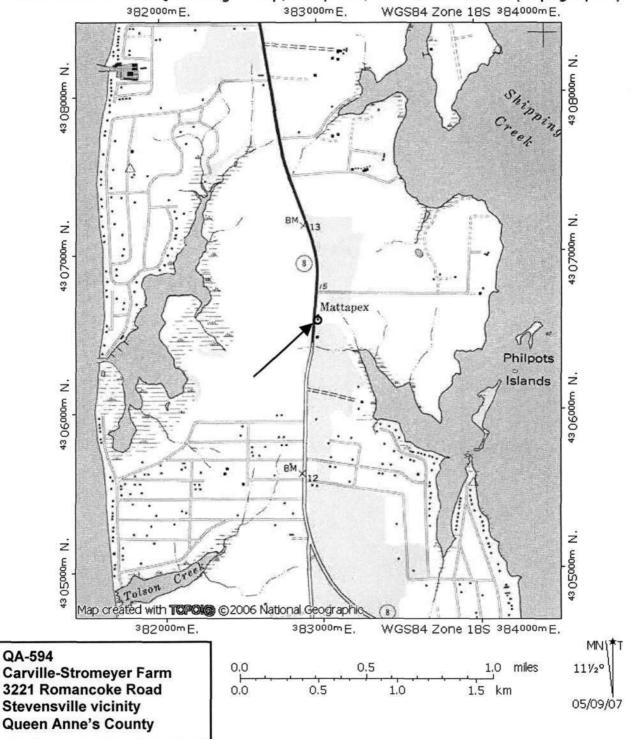
Inventory No.: QA-594

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- "County Level Results for 1920: Maryland." *Historical Census Browser*. Charlottesville, Va.: University of Virginia, Geospatial and Statistical Data Center, 2004. Accessed 11 October 2007. <a href="http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/stats/histcensus/php/county.php">http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/stats/histcensus/php/county.php</a>.
- "Post Offices: Maryland, Queen Anne's County." *Jim Forte Postal History*. Las Vegas, Nev.: Jim Forte, n.d. Accessed 11 October 2007. <a href="http://postalhistory.com/postoffices.asp?task=display&state=MD&county=Queen+Annes">http://postalhistory.com/postoffices.asp?task=display&state=MD&county=Queen+Annes</a>.
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- U.S. Population Census, Queen Anne's County, Maryland, 1900-1920 [inclusive].



Site Plan QA- 594 Carville-Stromeyer Farm 3221 Romancoke Road Stevensville vicinity Queen Anne's County, Maryland

USGS Kent Island Quadrangle Map, Maryland, 7.5 Minute Series (Topographic)





QA-594
CARVILLE-STROME VER FARM
3221 Romancoke Rol.
Queen Annés Co., MD
HISTORY MATTERS, LLC
4/2007
MD SHPO
HOUSE - LOOKING NORTHEAST
10F 6



QA-594
CARVILLE-STROMEYER FARM
3221 ROMANCOKE RD.
QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD
HISTORY MATTERS, LLC
4/2007
MD SHPO
HOUSE- LOOKING NORTHWEST
20F6



QA-594 CARVILLE - STROMEYER FARM 3221 ROMANCOKE RD. QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD HISTORY MATTERS, LLC 4/2007 MD SHPO HOUSE-EAST ELEVATION (REAR) 30f6



QA-594
CARVILLE-STROMEYER FARM
3221 ROMANCOKE RD.
QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD
LISTORY MATTERS, LLC
4/2007
MD SHPO.
HOUSE-LOOKING SOUTHEAST
4 of 6



QA-594

CARVILLE - STROMEYER FARM

3221 ROMANCOKE RD,

QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD

HISTORY MATTERS LLC

4/2007

MD SHPO

GARAGE - LOOKING SOUTHEAST

5 OF 6



QA-594 CARVILLE-STROMEYER FARM 3221 Romancoke Rd Queen Anne's G., MD HISTORY MATTERS, LLC 4/2007 Collection of outbuildings at rear of property - looking Southeast

60f6